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TRANSFER PAYMENTS

Mr. John Solomon (Regina—Lumsden, NDP): Mr. Speaker, last month the Liberal government reduced federal transfer payments to Saskatchewan by a further \$244 million. With a stroke of a pen, Saskatchewan's budget surplus has been wiped out.

Saskatchewan was the first province in Canada to produce a balanced budget without hurting those in need. This latest Liberal action will hurt those in need most.

Provinces have been under constant attack from the Liberal government's cutting of transfer payments. The Liberals' slashing of post-secondary education funding means higher education will only be available to wealthy families.

The reduction in transfer payments to the provinces is damaging to Canada's inter-generational and inter-regional sharing. Forcing young Canadians to pay more for their post-secondary education could cause them to lose sympathy for their elders. We ought not be surprised if soon these young people in turn demand that other generations, such as seniors, finance their own social and economic needs on a pay as you go basis as well.

Is this the Liberal vision for Canada, pitting one generation against the other?

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WINTER CITIES CONFERENCE

Mr. Ronald J. Duhamel (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Treasury Board, Lib.): Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the hosting in Winnipeg next February of the Seventh International Winter Cities Conference and Showcase.

[Translation]

This conference will bring together mayors and business leaders from more than sixty different cities and twenty-six countries to share their knowledge and ideas about what it is to live in a winter city.

[English]

By hosting Winter Cities '96, those of us who live and work in Winnipeg will be able to demonstrate to the rest of Canada and indeed to the rest of the world that we are immensely proud of our city and delighted to share it.

Winter Cities '96 is also a tremendous chance for Canadian businesses to showcase and promote their talents. At the moment, over 200 volunteers are hard at work preparing to welcome visitors from over 60 cities and 26 different countries.

[Translation]

I would like to thank them for their hard work.

[English]

I am sure that Winnipeg will make this Winter Cities Conference the most successful yet.

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[Translation]

CP RAIL

Mr. Roger Pomerleau (Anjou—Rivière-des-Prairies, BQ): Mr. Speaker, yesterday the Prime Minister made a shameful remark, taking dangerous liberties with reality.

By linking the departure of CP Rail from Montreal with the sovereignist movement, and even having the colossal nerve to state that the sovereignists are intolerant of cultural minorities in Quebec, the Prime Minister sidestepped the question and added fuel to the fire.

If the Prime Minister listened to CBC a little more often, he would know that Mr. Ritchie, the President of CP Rail, has denied any connection between moving the headquarters and Quebec's move toward sovereignty. Mr. Ritchie simply pointed out that 80 per cent of CP activities were in the west. And this is the result of federal policies.

Rather than seeking to exacerbate the differences between the various groups making up Quebec society, the Prime Minister ought to be working to bring them closer together. This is another of the real problems the Prime Minister ought to be addressing.

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[English]

HEMOPHILIA

Ms. Jean Augustine (Etobicoke—Lakeshore, Lib.): Mr. Speaker, November has been declared hemophilia month. Approximately 2,400 Canadians are affected by hemophilia, an inherited condition characterized by a failure in blood-clotting mechanisms in the body.

The Canadian Hemophilia Society is dedicated to providing information and support services to persons with hemophilia and other related blood conditions.

The Canadian Hemophilia Society has recently received a grant for \$125,000 from Health Canada to assist in the development of a stronger volunteer base. This is in addition to the over \$450,000 that has been contributed through the national AIDS strategy for AIDS information and prevention activities.

Today let us join together to salute the outstanding work of the Canadian Hemophilia Society. We wish them a successful campaign during hemophilia month.